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(54) Vibrating stent for opening calcified lesions

(57) An intraluminal catheter and stent delivery system (10) using vibratory energy to open calcified lesions (43). The catheter having an expandable stent (40) mounted on a balloon portion (13) thereof, is adapted to convey vibratory energy through the stent to a calcified lesion to facilitate crossing and dilating the lesion during a PTCA procedure. A vibratory energy source (53) is

transmitted through a flexible wire (50) to provide vibratory energy to the stent, which in turn provides vibratory energy to a calcified lesion to thereby at least partially pulverize the lesion and assist in crossing and dilating the body lumen.

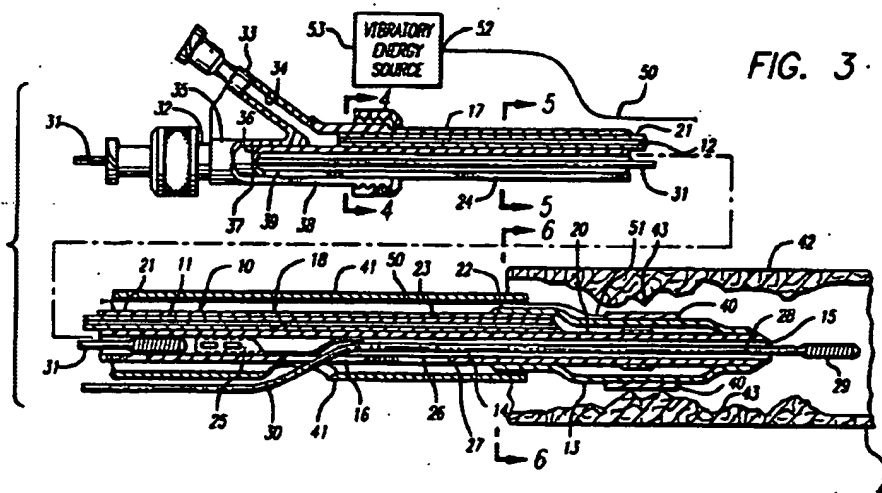


FIG. 3

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